

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 173741  
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TO USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, MARR, ETEL

SUBJECT: GUIDANCE FOR SPECIAL NJCEC MEETING, JULY 14, 1978

REFS: (A) USNATO 6545 (B) NAC 4788

1. YOUR COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS IN REF A WERE MOST HELPFUL. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IS PROVIDED FOR USE DURING MEETING.

A. WE CANNOT ACCEPT PROPOSALS FOR NATO SATCOM IV WHICH ARE MORE EXPENSIVE AND ENTAIL MORE PRODUCTION, TECHNICAL, OPERATIONAL AND MANAGEMENT RISKS THAN THE DSCS III. THERE ARE MANY HIGH-PRIORITY PROJECTS ELIGIBLE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING, WE ARE UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE FROM CONGRESS TO FUND THEM UNDER THE NATO INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM, AND IT IS CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 173741

INCONCEIVABLE TO USE THE INADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS WHICH ARE LIKELY TO BE AVAILABLE FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS FOR A MORE EXPENSIVE UNPROVEN SATCOM SYSTEM WHEN A LESS EXPENSIVE AND RELIABLE SYSTEM WHICH MEETS ALL NATO REQUIREMENTS IS AVAILABLE.

B. IT IS APPARENT THAT THERE IS NO RATIONAL REASON

FOR OPTING FOR THE MORE EXPENSIVE AND HIGHER RISK APPROACH, BUT ONLY A DESIRE BY SOME OF OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES TO SELECT A EUROPEAN SYSTEM FOR POLITICAL REASONS. INASMUCH AS IT IS CLEAR THAT THE DSCS III IS SUPERIOR IN NEARLY EVERY RESPECT, AND CONSIDERABLY CHEAPER, YOU SHOULD DO NOTHING TO FACILITATE AN NJCEC OR POSSIBLE LATER DPC DECISION TO OPT FOR A MORE EXPENSIVE AND HIGHER RISK APPROACH.

2. YOU SHOULD ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN SUPPORT BY OTHERS FOR OUR POSITION, OR YOU SHOULD PROPOSE AN APPROACH THAT ALLOWS DSCS III AND OTHER DESIGNS TO COMPETE UNDER ICB PROCEDURES. YOU SHOULD MAKE YOUR DECISION ON HOW TO PROCEED BASED ON RESULTS OF YOUR PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS WITH KEY NATO OFFICIALS (SEE USNATO 6703).

3. ANY OTHER BUSINESS. YOU SHOULD AGREE TO THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULES FOR TARE AND IVSN (REF B).

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## Message Attributes

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